



Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Guard Force

Approximately 1,000 personnel are assigned to the Joint Detention Group – GTMO's guard force.

Army and Navy guards are distributed throughout seven currently occupied facilities. Guards receive in-depth pre-deployment training before arriving at Guantanamo to ensure they are professionally prepared. A state-side mock facility was created for guard personnel. In addition to pre-deployment training, on-the-job training is conducted upon arrival to Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

The JDG performs a host of functions at JTF GTMO. For each intra-camp detainee movement, two guards are required, while four guards are required for inter-camp movements. They conduct detainee checks at a minimum of every three minutes. Detainees are under observation at all times, including during humanities programs, recreation and at all appointments. Guards hand-serve meals in non-compliant camps.



Clear standard operating procedures are strictly adhered to at all times. In addition, standardization teams conduct internal audits to ensure procedures are followed. JDG leadership provides daily, active, on-site supervision.

Detainee assaults on the guard force occur on a regular basis. Guards who are assaulted, both verbally and physically, shower, change clothes and then are medically and mentally evaluated before continuing their watch. The guards are given the opportunity to leave their shift or talk to someone from the Joint Stress Mitigation and Restoration Team (JSMART). Most choose to shower, change and resume their shift at work.

Support elements to the JDG mission include:

- Behavioral Science Consultant Team
- JSMART
- Linguist
- Staff Judge Advocate
- Cultural Advisor

Behavioral Science Consultants (BSCs) are psychologists not assigned to clinical practice functions. Instead, they provide consultative services to support authorized law detention and intelligence activities. BSCs employ their professional training, not in a provider-patient relationship, but in relation to a person who is the subject of a lawful governmental inquiry, assessment, investigation, adjudication or other proper action.